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courage is contagious

Viewing cable 08SANJOSE662, TFGG01: COSTA RICA SUPPORTS DRAFT UNSC RESOLUTION

If you are new to these pages, please read an introduction on the [structure of a cable](#) as well as how to [discuss them](#) with others. See also the [FAQs](#)

Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cables unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables ([browse by origin](#) to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

To understand the justification used for the classification of each cable, please use this [WikiSource](#) article as reference.

Discussing cables

If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at the paragraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags **#cablegate** and a hash containing the reference ID e.g. **#08SANJOSE662**.

Reference ID	Created	Released	Classification	Origin
08SANJOSE662	2008-08-13 15:57	2011-08-30 01:44	CONFIDENTIAL	Embassy San Jose

Appears in these articles:

<http://www.nacion.com/2011-03-10/Investigacion/NotasDestacadas/Investigacion2707705.aspx>
<http://www.nacion.com/2011-03-10/Investigacion/NotasSecundarias/Investigacion2707712.aspx>
<http://www.nacion.com/2011-03-10/Investigacion/NotasSecundarias/Investigacion2707716.aspx>

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OO RUEHWEB

DE RUEHSJ #0662 2261557
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FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9999
INFO RUEHGG/UN SECURITY COUNCIL COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN JOSE 000662

SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR WHA/CEN AND IO/UNP JMARIZ.

E.O. 12958: DECL: 08/13/2018
TAGS: [UNSC](#) [GE](#) [PREL](#) [PBTS](#) [PGOV](#) [CS](#)
SUBJECT: TFGG01: COSTA RICA SUPPORTS DRAFT UNSC RESOLUTION
ON GEORGIA, BUT BELIEVES IT COULD BE STRONGER

REF: STATE 86130

Classified By: Political/Economic Counselor David E. Henifin for reason

1.4(d).

¶1. (C) On August 12, we delivered reftel demarche to Adriana Murillo and Juan Salas of the MFA's UNSC team, and to Antonio Alarcon, COS to FonMin Bruno Stagno. Alarcon assured us that the GOCR supported the resolution, and he understood the importance of unified Council action in the face of a likely Russian veto. He was not aware of the latest vote count, however. Alarcon (as is his custom) said he would confer with Minister Stagno and get back to us ASAP with any fresh information.

¶2. (C) The MFA working-level response was (typically) more caveated. Murillo told us that "in principle" Costa Rica agreed with the second draft version of the French resolution, but that the GOCR was waiting to see if and/or how the text changed. She and Salas stopped short of making a firm commitment to supporting the resolution "as is." Murillo cautioned about both sides bandying around words like "genocide" -- words that cannot be taken lightly, in her view. She confirmed, however, that Costa Rica had pronounced publicly that it supported an immediate cease-fire, a return to a pre-August 7 status, refugee protection, and protection of the civilian population (the latter on the part of the Georgians as well as the Russians). Murillo added that if a Russian veto of the resolution were certain, then the text could be made much stronger, and, in that case, Costa Rica would want to offer amendments that would deal primarily with protection of civilians above all. Murillo said that the GOCR was therefore waiting to see Russia's point of view, and asked us to inform the MFA as soon as we knew Russia's position.

¶3. (C) COMMENT: We have seen this bifurcated GOCR reaction before -- clear support from the MFA front office, but a more nuanced approach at lower levels. Costa Rica seems determined to take every opportunity to make its mark on Council action, especially when human rights-related issues are involved. Although we are ready to push (again) on the GOCR here, USUN may want to lean heavily and soon on the Costa Rican Mission in New York to prevent Costa Rican perfectionism from becoming an enemy of the good enough in this case.
CIANCHETTE